

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8 February 1966

Dear Admiral Raborn:

You are aware that a study of information handling within the intelligence community is being conducted, at the request of the President, jointly by the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and the Special Assistant for Science and Technology. The panel assembled to carry out the study has already been in touch with some organizational units within your agency.

The panel has been tasked to provide guidance to the intelligence community in accelerating use of improved methods and facilities for information handling and access, and to evaluate in technical terms the true meaning of the enormous and somewhat heterogeneous growth of the intelligence community's information pool.

"Information handling" is here defined as the processing of the various kinds of raw intelligence input, including messages, reports, documents, signals, and photographs.

The panel wishes to ensure that its recommendations are made with good understanding of the active research, development, and improvement programs in information handling now underway and planned by the several intelligence organizations. I am requesting, therefore, that you furnish the panel, by March 4, statements describing each such major program in your organization. Programs concerned with raw inputs and final delivery and presentation are not of interest to the panel, except where such programs will significantly affect the intermediate processing steps.

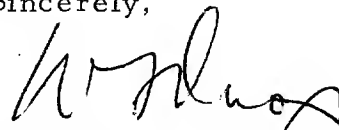
Each program statement, to be generally about 500 words, will serve as a basis for further discussion and should include a brief paragraph on each of the following points:

- (1) Significant problem being attacked by your program.
- (2) Objective expected to be achieved by the program, including criteria used for problem selection, and program formulation.
- (3) Action taken to date, including level of effort and target date of completion.
- (4) Progress made toward solution, including a listing of the factors limiting the achievement of the above objective with an indication of their importance and the possibilities for speeding the completion of your program.

The panel is aware of a number of on-going agency and community study efforts. The present request is designed to develop a common information base for community-wide efforts to accelerate the improvement of all elements of the information handling system.

If there are questions about the nature and format of the information desired, please get in touch with Mr. Thomas S. McFee, executive secretary for the panel. He may be reached on code 128 ext. 28443.

Sincerely,



William T. Knox, Chairman
Guidance and Evaluation Panel

Admiral William F. Raborn, USN (Ret.)
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

cc: Special Assistant to the President
for Science and Technology
Chairman, President's Foreign
Intelligence Advisory Board

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~~DDCI~~
TO: DCI

Attached for DCI signature is an interim response to a letter from Mr. William Knox, Chairman of the Guidance and Evaluation Panel, which, as you know, is conducting a study on information handling within the intelligence community.

Mr. Knox's letter requests that the panel be furnished, by 4 March, statements describing the research, development, and improvement programs in information handling now under way and planned within CIA.

As you know, Mr. Paul Borel is the Agency's point of contact to assist the panel in its work. DD/I has started working on the report requested and, when completed, will go forward under a covering note for DCI signature.

Recommend signature.



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L. R. White

14 FEB 1966

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		DATE		INITIALS
1	Mr. Paul Borel				
2	7E 32 HQS				
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ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE	
<p>Remarks:</p> <p>Paul:</p> <p>DCI has not seen the attached Knox letter. Red White has looked it over. He asks that you begin work on the report Knox requests and that you prepare for DCI signature a response to this letter within the next couple of days.</p> <p>Leave it to you as to dissemination but would think your focal points in each of the various Agency offices would find it of use.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> HK </div>					
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER					
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.					DATE
O/Executive Director/HKnoche					9 Feb 66
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